

The Hongkong Telegraph

TODAY'S WEATHER: Light or moderate North or Northeast winds in harbour, fresh in exposed places. Fine.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure, 1027.8 mbs., 30.34 in. Temperature, 64.0 deg. F. Dew point, 52 deg. F. Relative humidity, 62. Wind direction, NE. Wind force, 10 knots.
High water: 9 ft. at 8.41 p.m. Low water: 1 ft. at 2.51 a.m. (Wednesday).

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VOL. III NO. 283

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1948.

Price 20 Cents

Camera Snaps New Comet



This photograph of a new comet, for the time being known as "Comet 1948L," was made at Lowell observatory, Flagstaff, Arizona, as it flashed across the southeastern sky. Astronomers at Mt. Palomar said it was the brightest in this hemisphere since 1927.—AP Picture.

The Berlin Dispute

Vyshinsky Accepts New Proposals

Paris, Nov. 29.—Russia accepted on Monday night a new plan for mediation efforts in the Berlin dispute. Argentine Foreign Minister Bramuglia said Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Vyshinsky agreed to the latest plan of the "neutrals" at a night meeting with him.—Associated Press.

THREE POINTS

Paris, Nov. 29.—It is understood that the new plan by Dr. Juan Bramuglia to solve the Berlin problem includes the following points:
1. The basis of the plan is the formation of a committee of ex-

(Continued on Page 5)

EDITORIAL

Neglected Soldiery

THE successive defeats of the Nationalist armies in Manchuria, northern and central China have, not without reason, created doubts in the minds of foreign observers about the fighting qualities of Chiang Kai-shek's troops. But chief complaint must fall on the stability and honesty of the Chinese field commanders and the organization under which the troops operate. In this respect a clue is provided by the press despatch from Tientsin reporting a demonstration by disabled Manchurian camp-followers seeking to draw public attention to the lack of official interest in their welfare. The men claim to have been left to fend for themselves, and several have had to resort to begging. It is not a pretty picture, nor one that invites confidence in a military organization that can so easily abandon its fighting units. Excuses are easily conceived: the swiftness of the Manchuria debacle disrupted the Nationalist army services; repatriation always takes time, and in this case has been rendered impossible by the almost overnight collapse of Chiang's forces; land communications at best are bad—today in the affected areas are cut and therefore unusable; shipping is at a premium. But when all this has been pleaded (and with a certain amount of truth) it remains to be observed that the abandonment of Chinese soldiers who wish still to fight but have no leaders, is not a new phenomenon. The Tientsin episode simply points the deplorable lack of consideration for the common soldier in China, both as regards conditions of service and

medical and welfare facilities. He is notoriously underpaid, usually poorly fed, badly provided for in barracks accommodation, ill maintained with medical supplies, and enjoys practically none of the special morale-building amenities which are regarded as essential to modern armies. The Sino-Japanese war provided numerous instances of sick men being written off with a ration of rice and few dollars when their units were ordered elsewhere, the men being left to the uncertainty in mercy of cure by nature or the kind-heartedness of peasants in the neighbourhood. The abandonment of fighting troops to their own fate in the hour of adversity is undoubtedly the surest method of destroying morale and of inviting defection. And the process assumes the degree of tragedy when it has been proved (as it was in the second Burma campaign) that given good leadership and ordinarily decent equipment and provisions, the soldiers of the Nationalist armies are sturdy and courageous fighters. It may well be that the principal reason for the poor showing of the Nationalists in the North and the mass defections in the absence of just those factors which inspire fighting men to give of their best, no matter how badly pressed they may be by the enemy. And it may well account for the statement attributed to one of the abandoned Manchurian camp-followers: "We are willing to fight any time we have the leaders who will take care of us." A damning indictment, but one to be remembered when assessing the present morale of the Nationalist forces.

CRITICAL ADVICE

Senator Connally had some critical advice for the Generalissimo himself. "Chiang Kai-shek is the Generalissimo," he said. Then he added that Chiang has not been "doing enough operations."

"If Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek," he said, "would take over an army in the field it would do more to restore the morale of those people than anything else. I believe he could do more than he has done."

Mr. Connally said he will talk to the Secretary of State, Mr. George Marshall, about the Chinese situation. He added that Mr. Marshall's experience with Generalissimo Chiang had not been "satisfactory."

"I am not in favour of sending (American) combat troops to China," Mr. Connally said. "If we had begun earlier sending equipment and trainers, we might have done some good."

The plans to receive Madame Chiang as the distinguished wife of the chief executive of a friendly government were announced without comment by the State Department.

As a special pleader for a national cause, Madame Chiang is put by top administration officials on a par with Mr. Winston Churchill, Britain's war leader. But they have made it clear privately they lack enthusiasm for her new mission at a time when Mr. Truman and Secretary Marshall are facing a knotty and painful decision.—Associated Press.

Battle Scene Shifting Closer To Nanking

DEFENDERS OF HSUCHOW ORDERED SOUTH

Two-Pronged Drive Reported

Nanking, Nov. 30.—The critical battle for Central China on Monday appeared to be shifting from Hsuehchow to the very approaches to the capital—Nanking. An estimated 250,000 Nationalist troops at Hsuehchow, defence bastion for Nanking, have been ordered to withdraw southward to engage the many Chinese Communist forces, said official sources.

The outcome of the entire battle for Nanking may depend on the ability of the Hsuehchow Garrison to make that withdrawal. Communists are concentrating in the Suhsien and Pengpu areas on the approaches to Nanking.

Nanking observers suggested the reason the withdrawal order has not yet been carried out is due to the reluctance of the Nationalist commanders of Hsuehchow to abandon tons of supplies there.

The battle for Hsuehchow has raged three weeks. Its abandonment would indicate that the Government regards as more critical the developing struggle in the 211 miles between Nanking and Hsuehchow.

Earlier reports from the fronts indicated that the Communists had left secondary troops to engage Nationalists within the Hsuehchow perimeter, while the main force of nearly 500,000 troops headed towards Pengpu, 100 miles north-west of Nanking.

If the estimates of the opposing sides are approximately correct, the urgency of withdrawing Hsuehchow's defenders to help the Government forces to the South appears clear. The Communists seem to hold a more than 2-1 numerical advantage on the road to Nanking.

Amid these developments, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, wife of China's President, sped toward the United States in an American Navy plane on a reported mission to enlist more U.S. aid.

The Chinese Government's Hsuehchow garrison was under orders on Monday to rally south to save Nanking and rescue an entire army group trapped by the Communist forces, but it gave no indication of heeding the call.

The fate of this frightened capital may depend on the ability—or willingness—of the 250,000-man Hsuehchow force to quit its fortress 211 miles northwest of Nanking. Latest battlefield dispatches said the Government's 12th Army Group—totaling about 140,000 men—was encircled by the Communists 67 miles south of Hsuehchow and 145 miles northwest of Nanking. Little defence remained on the route to Nanking.

(The Communist Radio confirmed the identification of the trapped group and said it comprised 11 divisions which had already been partly destroyed. The Communist broadcast, heard in San Francisco by the Associated Press, said the group had been given a "final warning" to surrender or die. It said several attempts to break out had failed and the hungry troops were "starving" over airdropped food.)

Official Chinese sources confirmed that the Hsuehchow commander, General Liu Tze, had been given orders to move south to try and trap the trappers.—Associated Press.

TWO-PRONGED DRIVE

Shanghai, Nov. 30.—Although Nanking officials denied that the Government was contemplating the evacuation of Hsuehchow, independent Chinese reports this morning said that some 100,000 Nationalist troops have begun a two-pronged drive southward from the Hsuehchow area towards Suhsien.

Observers are quoted as stating that this force may prove the decisive factor in the battle raging around Pengpu. One of the objectives of the action is said to be to draw off some of the Communist strength from the Pengpu sector, thus relieving pressure from the Communist spearheads advancing towards the Yangtze along both sides of the Hsuehchow-Nanking railway.

The Hsuehchow army was reported to be striking in a parallel wave along both sides of the Hsuehchow-Pengpu railway.—Reuters.

TANGKU "INVASION"

Tientsin, Nov. 30.—Following the abandonment of Shanhaikuan and Chinwangtao, an estimated 16,000 soldiers have been landed at Tangku from a variety of requisitioned vessels, Chinese press reports said tonight.

Their addition to the several thousand who had made their way down from Manchuria recently is posing serious problems of housing and feeding.

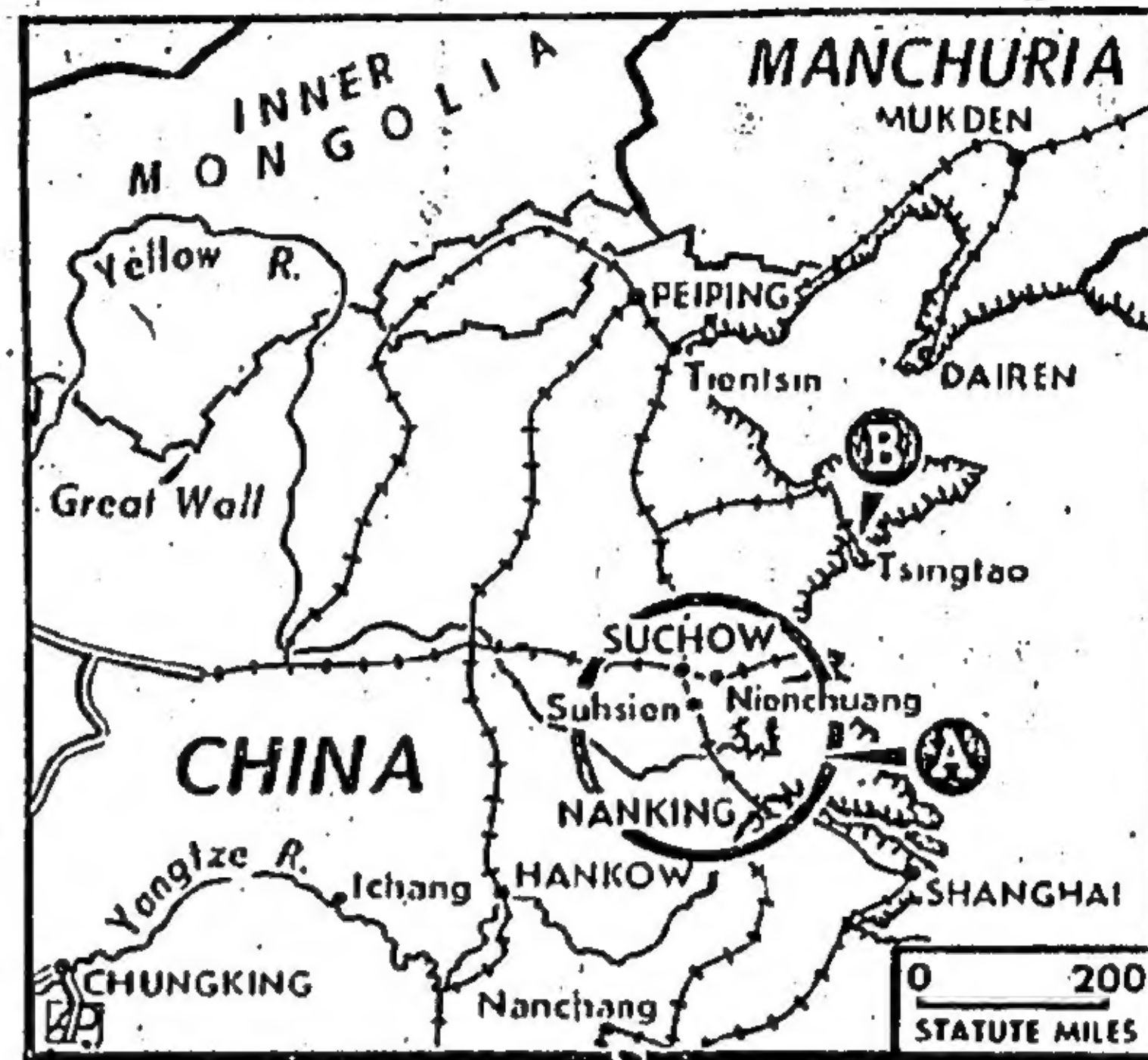
Travellers quoted by the press tonight said stations were crowded by soldiers. They said they saw men in uniform "everywhere" between Tangku and Tientsin.

They disclosed that shopkeepers had put up shutters at Tangku, where incidents involving soldiers were on the increase.

In the meantime, fearful of encountering difficulties from soldiers desiring to proceed south, the Jardine evacuation vessel, Wingang, will not enter the harbour here. Instead, landing will be effected at the Taku Bar, where the vessel will turn round for Hong Kong with 120 evacuees.

The Wingang is due at the Taku Bar this evening from Shanghai and is scheduled to sail on the night of December 2.—Reuters.

Fateful Battle Area



The encircled area (A) is territory where China's fate may be settled as the Communists and Nationalists fight for supremacy in the battle south of Hsuehchow. Latest reports indicate that the Nationalists are abandoning Hsuehchow, presumably with the intention of defending Nanking.—AP map.

Thick Fog Blankets Western Europe

LINER'S SAILING POSTPONED

London, Nov. 29.—Thick fog with icy temperatures still blanketed five countries of Western Europe today, paralysing transport, delaying once more the sailing of the transatlantic liner, the Queen Elizabeth, and impeding the airlift to Berlin.

For Britons, it was the third day of disrupted train services and slowed road traffic—and there was no sign of an immediate change. Weather experts expect the fog to last several days more.

The "blackout" affected all forms of travel—London and South-East England were the hardest hit—and many thousands of workers arrived late for work this morning.

Main line expresses from North England and Scotland were up to two hours late arriving in London. Eastern Britain, from the Scottish border to the South Coast, was cloaked in a mantle of fog and the sailing of the world's largest liner, the 82,000-ton Queen Elizabeth, already 12 days late through the American longshoremen's strike—was postponed for the sixth time today because of the fog.

HUNDREDS OF ships were anchored today in the river Thames, including 60 colliers attempting to carry coal upriver to London.

The fog was almost complete over the German capital, which has been in a pocket of fair weather earlier in the day.

In the morning, Gatow Airport was closed, as it has been since midnight on Saturday, but planes were being brought into the American controlled Tempelhof Airport by radio.

The new terminus at Tegel, in the French sector of the German capital, stopped receiving planes early in the morning.

Only and Le Bourget Airports at Paris were almost idle. Airline services from Brussels to London, Paris, Prague, and Zurich were cancelled this morning.

Sole Airfield at Stavanger has at times been the only airfield in Northern Europe where aircraft have landed during the past two days.

Twenty-eight transatlantic flights from New York to Britain have been held up. Foreign airline planes were stranded at Northolt, northwest of London, which was completely fogbound.

(Continued on Page 5)

The High Court previously turned down similar appeals by Germans convicted at the Nuremberg war crimes trial.

The condemned Japanese are: General Kenji Doihara, 64, nicknamed "bird of evil omen" by Chinese who dreaded his exploits as the Japanese Army's undercover agent in China and Manchuria. Former Premier Koki Hirota, 70, who helped engineer Japan's pre-war harbour war plans.

Five other Japanese war leaders, including former Premier Hideki Tojo, 63, are also awaiting execution following their conviction by an International Military Tribunal.

No appeals were filed on the other five Japanese wartime leaders' behalf.

American attorneys for Doihara and Hirota filed petitions asking the Supreme Court to review the sentences of death by hanging.

Factory Explosion Kills 4, Injures 35

Hull, Yorkshire, Nov. 29.—A series of loud explosions in a factory building at Hull today tore off the front upper part of the works, killing four persons and injuring 35 others.

As rescue squads struggled to reach seven workers trapped inside the flame-seared building of the British Cocoa Mills in Tower Street, Hull, the anguished cries of the seven trapped employees were heard.

Smoke from the blazing works shot to a height of 1,000 feet, windows were shattered by the force of the explosions over a great distance.

Rescue workers tonight brought out alive one of the seven workers imprisoned inside the building. The rescued employee is a woman cashier, aged 20. She was immediately taken to hospital.

SIX PEOPLE TRAPPED
Police, firemen and volunteer rescue workers were still concentrating on their efforts to reach the other six persons trapped inside the works.

The technical director, a Dutch citizen, explained that petrol is used in large quantities at the mills. The first explosion was caused by gas of the tanks bursting open, escaping to the plant and catching fire.

Other explosions followed. One man was killed outright. He was blown out from the top of the building to the street. Another who was burned jumped into the river along which the mills stand.

The whole of the city's ambulances were called to the scene. Fire brigades clanged their way to the mill area within a short time of the outbreak. Private cars and lorries joined in convoy to take the injured to the Hull Royal Infirmary.

Hopes for the safety of the other six trapped workers in the mills diminished as the fire continued to rage unabated.—Reuters.

KING STAYING IN BED

London, Nov. 29.—It was learned tonight that King George, despite an official "general improvement" bulletin today, is now spending most of his time in bed.

His doctors think such complete rest is important for this maximum rest the King continues to carry on with his usual correspondence, State documents and other papers in the usual way.

The Queen spends a great part of each day with him.

Court Reporter Louis Wulf said tonight that he had good medical authority for stating that the King had received neither massage nor electric treatment. His doctors were keeping him under close and regular observation, but there is no indication when they might issue another bulletin.—Reuters.

TOJO NOT TO HANG YET

Tokyo, Nov. 30.—General MacArthur today granted a stay of execution to Hideki Tojo and six other Japanese war criminals condemned to die with him.—United Press.

11th-Hour Reprieve Sought By Jap War Criminals

Washington, Nov. 29.—Two wartime Japanese leaders, condemned to die as war criminals, made an eleventh hour appeal for their lives to the United States Supreme Court on Monday.

The High Court previously turned down similar appeals by Germans convicted at the Nuremberg war crimes trial.

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American attorneys for Doihara and Hirota filed petitions asking the Supreme Court to review the sentences of death by hanging.

Appeals on behalf of five other Japanese, who were convicted of war crimes but given only prison sentences, will be filed later, the attorneys said.

Court attaches said they assumed the "executions" of Doihara and Hirota, scheduled for sometime this week, will be postponed pending a decision by the Supreme Court.

General Douglas MacArthur has already upheld the verdicts of the two-year Tokyo trials.

The Supreme Court is scheduled to meet again on December 6. There was no indication as to when it will act.—Associated Press.

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MYNOR is famous for purity and excellent quality. The wonderful fruit taste of Mynor Fruit Cup comes from the balanced blend of oranges, lemons, pineapples and passionfruit. While grown-ups and children enjoy the delicious taste of Mynor, they benefit from the valuable vitamins contained in the fruit juices.

MYNOR Fruit Cup makes the ideal base for cocktails and long thirst-quenchers.

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WOMANSENSE

WOMEN MPs LUNCH, SEE FASHIONS



WOMEN MPs lunched and watched a fashion show at Grosvenor House under a "putting impetus into the export drive" slogan. Here, Mrs. Florence Paton (Rushcliffe, Nottingham, Soc.) turns from the table to admire a printed linen and net crinoline.

Mrs. Braddock, who was to have been among the guests, was prevented from attending by the hearing of her libel action.

JAM FOR TODAY

NOW that so many varieties of Jam have come in the market, the thing to do is to cook with it, wherever possible, instead of with sugar. This will help the housewives to save up sugar and at the same time please kiddies who like jam.

Jambake Mixture

INGREDIENTS: 3 thick slices (1/4 inch) brown bread; 1 fresh egg; 1oz. margarine; 3 tablespoons jam; 2 level tablespoons self-raising flour; pinch of salt; 1 level teaspoon mixed spice or cinnamon.

Method: Warm the margarine and jam in a small basin. Remove crusts from the bread and crumble it roughly. Add the egg to the warmed mixture and beat until creamy. Sieve the flour, salt and spice, if used, and add to the mixture. Lastly, add the crumbled bread and mix well. Use this to make:

Jambake Baskets

Roll out short pastry and cut into squares slightly larger than the patty tins. Grease deep patty tins and put into each a square of pastry.

Fill with the Jambake Mixture and draw over the four corners to make baskets.

Bake in a fairly hot oven (Reg. 6, Fah. 400 deg.) on an upper shelf for 10 to 15 minutes. Cool on a cake rack.

To make a large tart, line a pie-dish with short pastry, fill with the mixture and bake as above for 25 to 30 minutes according to depth.

Beauty Hints

WHAT preparation will make eyelashes grow? Well, if there is a vitamin deficiency the diet will have to be changed. White vasoline, rubbed gently into the eyelashes, will help. Some of the "eyelash growers" found at cosmetic counters are effective.

To keep the legs smooth after they are hair-free is a simple matter. You have only to give your legs a rubdown with any creamy body or hand lotion. So, there you are!

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RED RYDER

Not Particular

By Fred Harman

NOBODY FOLLOW US NOW, DOC?

THAT TOWN'S GLAD TO GET RID OF US, KILLDEAR.

WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE SOME OF MY CURE BEFORE WE GO INTO RIMROCK.

MY OLD RESERVATION NOW, BUT ME WANT TO SELL MEDICINE TO TRIBE—GET EVEN!

ME LEAVE TRIBE AFTER BIG FIGHT WITH CHIEF! OLD CHIEF DEAD NOW, BUT ME WANT TO SELL MEDICINE TO TRIBE—GET EVEN!

WELL, WHY NOT? AN INJUNE DOLLAR IS AS GOOD AS ANYBODY'S.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

ANIMAL ACT AID TO TEACHING

Bloomington, Pa. A COLLEGE art professor is having his co-eds this term for a case of wild cats because he feels much safer with the animals. "You know a tiger hates you," explains George J. Keller, art director at Bloomington State Teachers College. "But you never know about a girl student."

Keller is the owner of wild animal act and is taking a year's leave of absence from the college to take the animals on a tour of sportsmen's shows and circuses. The gray-haired professor began his show days with an alley-cat circus when he was a boy. He and his friends kept the cats in a chicken-wire cage. "We'd shoot of blank cartridges so fast," he says, "our audiences couldn't tell whether the cats were trained or just frightened to death."

No Whip Needed

After time out for a degree and a teaching assignment at Columbia University, Keller was back in Bloomington, his home town, showing off Mexican lizards as Chinese dragons. He made enough to buy a lion cub and trained it in his garage between classes.

From then on his animal acts were the real thing. Today his collection includes lions, tigers and leopards, and he handles them without the protection of a pistol, whip or chair.

For some years the professor has spent his summers with the big cats, returning to the college every autumn. This year he wants to try running his show full-time.

But Keller doesn't regret his time in the classroom. In fact, teaching college students has helped him in handling his cats. Both have to have habit patterns drilled into them, he says. "And both are stubborn, headstrong and conceited."

Cramping Of The Leg Muscles

By HERMAN N. BUNDESEN, M.D.

ONE of the most common complaints of elderly people is cramping of the leg muscles.

A recent study of the cause and possible methods of overcoming the condition indicates that quinine given under a physician's direction may prove a valuable remedy in these cases. In all, 20 patients were studied. Ten of these patients were suffering from diabetes, five were being treated for varicose veins, and in four there was serious interference of the circulation through the arteries.

It was found that many of these patients were suffering from a vitamin deficiency, particularly the older ones. However, treatment with vitamins alone did not relieve the cramps.

Capsules Prepared

In carrying out a study on these 20 patients, capsules were prepared containing quinine sulfate, while similar capsules containing prostigmine and a substance which had no effect at all, were also prepared.

The patients were first given either the capsules containing the inactive preparation or the quinine. As soon as relief of the muscle cramps was obtained by the use of the quinine, the inactive preparation was substituted for it. The quinine capsules were given after each meal.

It was found that the quinine given at bedtime was enough in itself in most cases to prevent the development of the muscle cramps. In other instances, the quinine was given both before supper and at bedtime.

Inactive Preparation

On the other hand, when the patients were given the inactive preparation, no effect on the muscle cramps was noted. This would seem to indicate quite definitely that the quinine has a definite, and specific action in relieving muscle cramps. The prostigmine had no effect on the muscle cramps, although it did seem to aid in dilating the blood vessels so that circulation was improved.

It was interesting to note that in those patients who had arthritis, the prostigmine seemed to have a beneficial effect in relieving the pain and stiffness in the joints.

It would appear that the quinine acts directly upon the muscles in overcoming the muscle cramps.

The patients for the most part noticed that the muscle cramps at night were most severe following unusual activity during the day. Hence, those who have muscle cramps might do well to avoid strenuous activities.

When You Shop for New Shoes



When trying on a pair of shoes, make sure they are roomy in the toe and snug at the heel for a perfect fit.

By HELEN FOLLETT

IT'S nice to see a pretty woman tripping along the beauty way, stepping pretty, figure smart and countenance bright and untroubled. In contrast, observe those poor creatures who hobble or shuffle or just get wherever they are going. The light stepper has her feet comfortably shod. The hobbler and shuffler are suffering from painful feet. It has not dawned upon them that they should not abuse their feet, pack them in cases that are not suitable in last or contour. Something should be done about that. There should be a law.

When selecting shoes take your time and use your head. A wrong choice may make you miserable, ruin good posture, put furrows between your eyes. Cheap, carelessly designed shoes are no bargains. Note especially if your choice has good, flexible leather soles to give free movement to your pedals. The firm texture of leather helps the shoe to retain its shape and prevents the foot from spreading or taking on lines that make them look older than they should.

Have both feet measured for length and width, with each foot bearing the weight of the body. Pull out the toes of your stockings to insure that measurement is taken of the longest toe. An experienced shoe clerk will do this, but all clerks are not conscientious, so direct the matter yourself.

When the shoes are on, walk tip-toe to find out if you have a really flexible sole of high quality. Don't endure run-over heels. Have new inns put on frequently. Worn over heels cause weak ankles and foot strain. Also, they don't look pretty; they are as much of a sartorial error as a hole in a stocking.

Don't forget that walking is an excellent exercise, that you won't indulge in that exercise unless your trotters are in first class condition.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Knarf Was a Pirate Captain

—He Commanded the Good Ship "Quack"—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF, the shadow-boy with the turned-about name, came into the playroom and sat down beside his sister Hanid.

"My goodness!" exclaimed Hanid, as she looked at her brother. "You're all covered with mud, and you're rooking wet!"

"I know it," said Knarf.

"What happened? What were you doing all afternoon, Knarf?"

"This afternoon," answered Knarf, "I was a Pirate."

"A Pirate! Where could you be a Pirate? And how could you be one without a ship?"

"I was a Pirate down at the pond," said Knarf, "and I had a fine ship, named Quack."

A Funny Name

"That's a funny name for a Pirate-ship. Whiv was it named Quack?"

"It was sort of a Duck Pirate-Ship. The Duck was the ship and the crew and I was the Pirate-captain."

Hanid wanted to know all about Knarf's adventure as a Pirate-captain on a duck-ship. "And I want to know how you got all full of mud and soaking wet, too?"

"Well," said Knarf, "I was sitting down at the pond, wishing I could be a pirate and wondering where I could find a ship to be a Pirate on, when all at once Duck came waddling down, all ready to go for a paddie around the pond. As soon as I saw her, I got a wonderful idea. 'Have you ever been a Pirate-ship?' I asked her. She said she had never heard of a Pirate-Ship."

"It's a lot of fun!" I told her. 'You sail around and when you see another ship, you chase after it. Then, when it's near enough, you jump on board, and, after a big fight, you finally capture it.'"

"What did the Duck say?" Hanid asked her brother.

The Duck said she didn't see any other ships on the pond—nothing but a lot of cat-tails and water lilies, which weren't much good capturing anyway since you could pick all you liked without anybody fighting about them. But she said if I wanted to be a Pirate badly enough, she wouldn't mind a bit if I rode on her back while she paddled around. So I did, and off we went. I named the ship, the Quack."

"Then what happened?" asked Hanid.

"Well, I was sitting down at the pond, wishing I could be a pirate and wondering where I could find a ship to be a Pirate on, when all at once Duck came waddling down, all ready to go for a paddie around the pond. As soon as I saw her, I got a wonderful idea. 'Have you ever been a Pirate-ship?' I asked her. She said she had never heard of a Pirate-Ship."

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The Duck said she didn't see any other ships on the pond—nothing but a lot of cat-tails and water lilies, which weren't much good capturing anyway since you could pick all you liked without anybody fighting about them. But she said if I wanted to be a Pirate badly enough, she wouldn't mind a bit if I rode on her back while she paddled around. So I did, and off we went. I named the ship, the Quack."

"Then what happened?" asked Hanid.

"Well, I was sitting down at the pond, wishing I could be a pirate and wondering where I could find a ship to be a Pirate on, when all at once Duck came waddling down, all ready to go for a paddie around the pond. As soon as I saw her, I got a wonderful idea. 'Have you ever been a Pirate-ship?' I asked her. She said she had never heard of a Pirate-Ship."

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Knarf was captain of the good ship "Quack."

"We sailed up and down the pond a couple of times without seeing any other ship to capture. The Duck was just about ready to turn back."

"Wait!" I cried. "I see a submarine!"

"Where?" asked the Duck. "And what's a submarine?"

"I explained to her that a submarine was a ship that sailed under water. I told her I had just seen it, moving toward the clump of cat-tails."

"Full Speed Ahead"

"Paddle full speed ahead!" I shouted. "I'll show you where it is!"

"I steered the Duck through the cat-tails and sure enough, there was the submarine, right underneath us in the water."

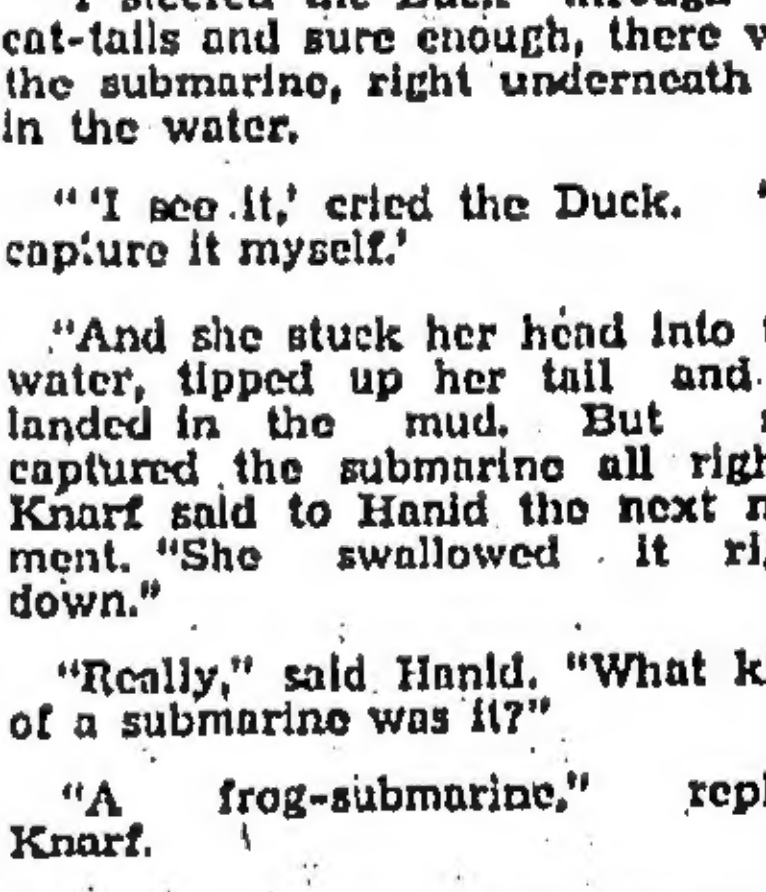
"I see it," cried the Duck. "I'll capture it myself!"

"And she stuck her head into the water, tipped up her tail and I landed in the mud. But she captured the submarine all right!" Knarf said to Hanid the next moment. "She swallowed it right down."

"Really?" said Hanid. "What kind of a submarine was it?"

"A frog-submarine," replied Knarf.

"Rupert and Margot—4"



The old lady tells Rupert that she thinks Margot generally goes towards the woods, so she starts off in that direction. Soon after she reaches the trees something white catches his eye, and he picks up a small handkerchief. Looking at it closely he gives a start. "It's got the name 'Margot' on it," he murmurs. "That means she has passed this way." Then there is an interruption. "What have you found, Rupert?" call a cheery voice, and the Rabbit twins run to join him. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



MEN THAT FOLLOW THE SEAS—Veteran fisherman Joe Sanchez straightens his lines on the wharf in St. Augustine, Florida. Excitement runs high these days as fishermen prepare their trawlers for shrimp fishing off the Florida coast.



MATINEE MINK—Playist Constance Keene models a new mink jacket in New York. Designed to hide longer length suit jackets, it dips past the hips, is shorter in front.



SNOW TAMERS—Maintenance workers at Rochester, New York, erect snow fences to cut down snow drifts in the months ahead. They will string up several miles of fences along the highways.



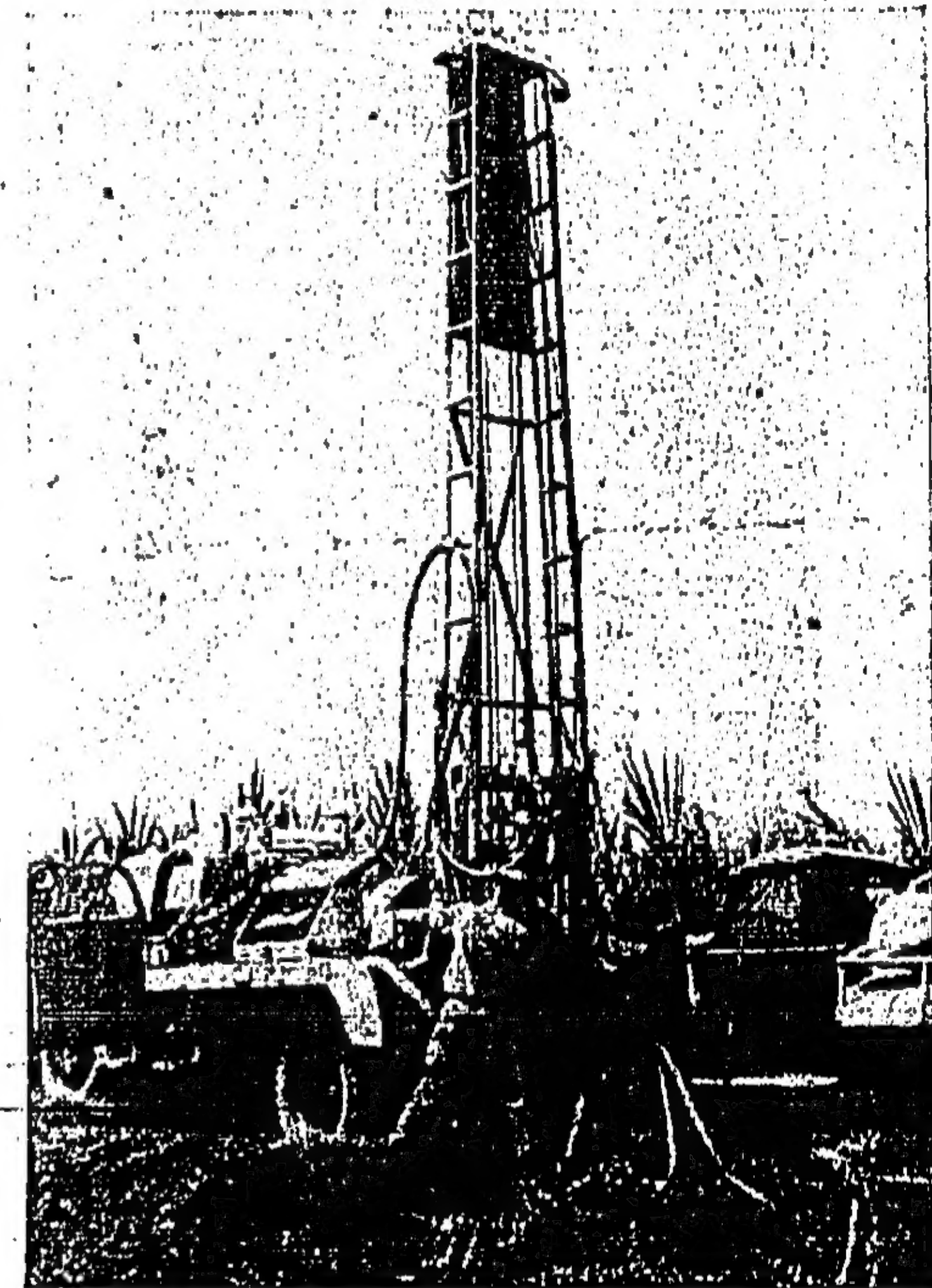
THE MOTHERLY TYPE?—Nola, with all her maternal instincts, doesn't want anyone to fool with her two little cubs in the Rome Zoo. Gift of the Italian population of former Italian East Africa; Nola gave birth to the babes while at the zoo.



LITTLE MISSIONARIES—Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, chats with children after Mission Sunday vespers at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. The Cardinal presided over services at which children of the Archdiocese took part, garbed in robes and habits of various Catholic religious orders throughout the United States.



TO ENLIGHTEN POSTERITY—A two-ton concrete cube containing a photographic documentation of railway operations as they exist today, and written predictions on the world in 2048, is lowered into the ground in Chicago. Railway and city officials observed the ceremony at 100th anniversary of rail transportation in the Middle West.



NATURAL RESOURCES—Workers in San Juan, Puerto Rico, take test seismic recordings in a sugar cane field. The economically hard-pressed territory has spent U.S.\$300,000 in its hopeful search for oil.

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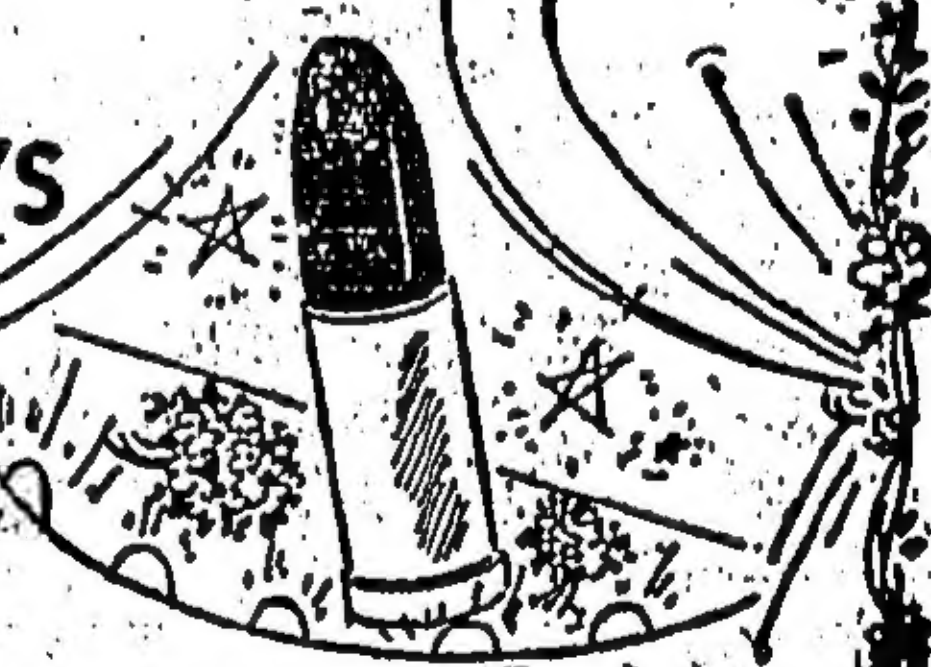
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AN AIR OF CONFIDENCE—Mrs. Audrey Rowe has the confidence of a champion as she guides her mount, Fast Fox, over a jump in the working hunter class at the National Horse Show in Madison Square Garden, New York.

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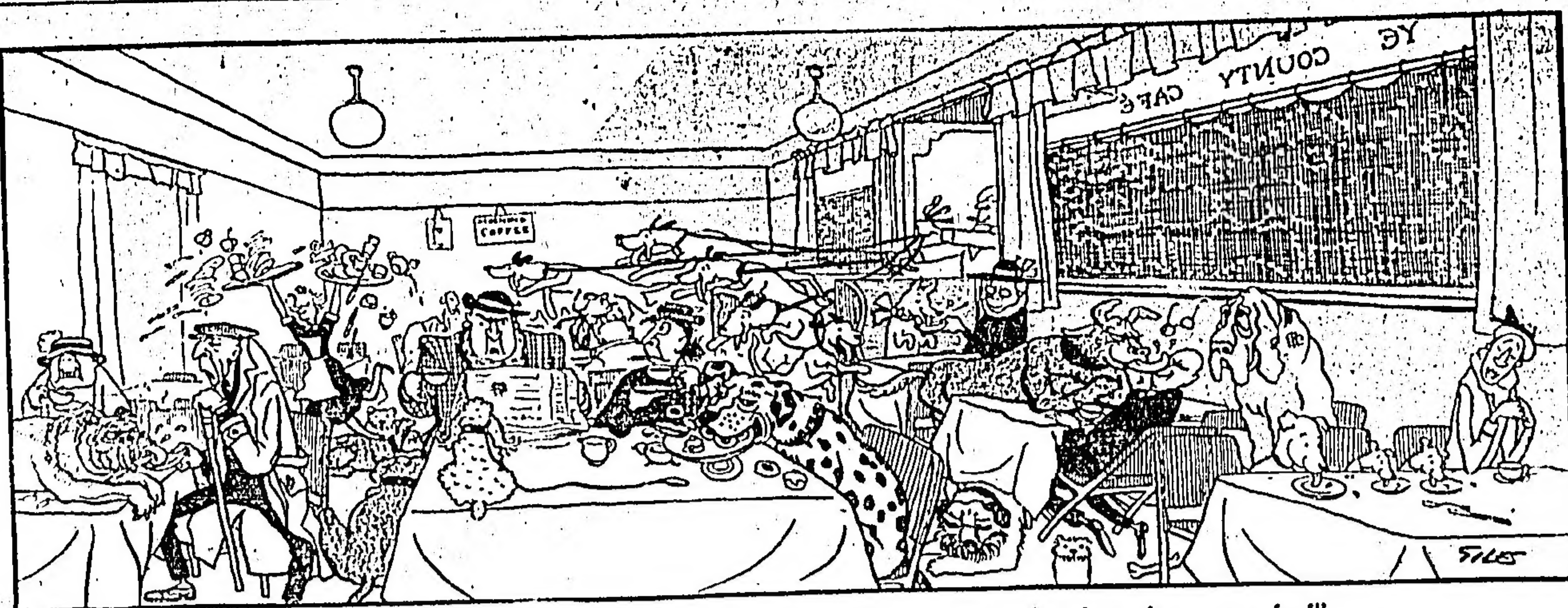
ROBERT MONTGOMERY

CLAUDE RAINS • EVELYN KEYES • JAMES GLADSON

Director: NITA JACKSON • Screenplay: JOHN EMERY

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

To-Morrow: "WANTED FOR MURDER"



"Georgina, one of these foreigners has written objecting to dogs in our cafes!"

LORD TEDDER ON BRITAIN'S AIR FORCE POLICY

BY SYDNEY REDWOOD

SOME highly important things about Britain's Air Force policy were said by Marshal of the RAF, Lord Tedder, Chief of the Air Staff, when he addressed the Headquarters Conference at Oxford.

"I think there are few people nowadays who would challenge the view that the RAF, supported by the AA guns, is now very literally your first line of defence," he said. "Attack from the air is not only the most dangerous threat to which we would be exposed in the event of war, it could be most sudden, and could develop to a dangerous scale most quickly. Air defence must therefore come first."

"There is, however, one aspect of the structure of air defence which I have sometimes in the past found to be misunderstood, even in high official circles. I have met the view that air defence in the air is carried out solely by fighters;

I have even heard the opinion expressed that fighters are the only aircraft needed for air defence. Both these views are of course, demonstrably false. It was Bomber Command that delayed the V. weapons' attack for many months, greatly reduced the scale of the attack both before and after it had opened, and finally practically dried up the attack by paralysing German rail communications. It was Allied bombers who were largely responsible for the air superiority over the beaches, which made the invasion of Sicily, Italy and Normandy possible.

GERMAN'S ERROR

"The Germans, fortunately, fell into the error of thinking that fighter defence was the answer to the Allied bomber offensive. In September 1944, they were producing considerably more fighters than the total Anglo-American fighter production (which of course

had to feed all war theatres), yet by that time Allied air superiority was almost absolute. No. The most effective defence against air attack is to stop it at its source. In future it may be the only way, especially against the rockets.

"The bomber and the fighter are complementary to each other—the straight left and the right guard. And without the air superiority which it is the role of that joint force to secure, no effective military operations are possible on land or at sea—nor indeed can the normal industrial and economic life of the country be maintained.

"I am sometimes asked whether the piloted aircraft is not

already out of date. My answer to that is "No." There will of course be technical developments in rocketry, but to get drastic improvements in range, size and accuracy will take time and much research. Pilotless fighters and pilotless bombers are by no means impossible, but I see us always needing air crew for many duties and years before they lose their fighter and bomber jobs. I see the basic structure of the Service remaining much the same as it is now for some considerable time, that is to say, based on its main functions—fighter, bomber, transport, reconnaissance, anti-submarine and tactical support. The Home Commands are organised on this functional basis (except that the Tactical Command is in Germany). Middle East and Far East commands are composite.

STRENUOUS PURGATORY

"YOU may like me to give you a brief line on the post-war Air Force. I think the first thing to get hold of is that ever since VJ Day the Service has been through a pretty strenuous purgatory. As you know, the Release Scheme was designed on the basis of simplicity and justice to the individual. It achieved those ends admirably, but its effects on the Service were serious. Apart from the rapid loss of trained men, the scheme brought about a serious unbalance in the RAF. In some trades we had a sufficiency, in other key trades we were desperately short. This led not only to serious disorganisation through a highly complex and technical service, but also to a no less serious loss of morale.

"In two years, nine out of every ten men and women in the ranks on VJ Day had gone, and more than half of the remainder less than two years' service to go. During this time our position regarding the grant of permanent commissions was stagnant. Until we should need after the war, we were unable to give any firm answer to the wartime officers who wished to stay on. As a result we lost to civilian life very many of the best of our war experienced officers.

"Add to these problems large numbers of air crew just completed their training, or partly trained whose flying had to cease arbitrarily as the schools closed down. Add further the periodic intake of conscripts

filtering into units disorganised by the run-down and demoralised by the presence of many waiting only for the very day of release—men who couldn't care less.

"I do not believe that any business of industrial organisation faced with such conditions would for a moment dream of attempting to carry on."

SIGNS OF RECOVERY

"THE Royal Air Force did carry on—heaven only knows how—and now, believe it or not, it is beginning to emerge from the slough. We have still got many problems to solve; it will be a long time before we have really cleared up the aftermath of the run-down, but we are on the way. I began to sense it first last year overseas, but this year there have been many signs of recovery despite our continuing difficulties of unbalanced trades, shortages or regular enlistments, etc.

"On the subject of what the Service needs, I have heard it said that the RAF really has no justification for commissioning so many of its junior men; the suggestion is that the young air force officer has no effective command, he has no need of leadership. In my opinion, this is an utter misconception of what is required from the young officer. It is true that the average young air force officer does not have a platoon of men under him on whom he can exercise his command and develop his leadership by marching them about the parade ground or leading them in open order across the common. No; his problem is much more subtle, much more difficult.

"On the ground he has to exercise his leadership before men who possess technical skill he is never likely to acquire; men who will, by the nature of their work, rarely be gathered together as a single body of men. In the air also, the officer will rarely, if ever, get the support of the herd which accompanies the more simple forms of military leadership. The young air force officer needs leadership, leadership of a high order, the leadership which is based on personal and individual integrity and example, the leadership which inspires loyalty by imagination and understanding.

A TRADITION

"SOMETIMES one hears it said that what the Air Force lacks is the tradition of the older services. Length of tradition we do lack—that is inevitable—but I will give way to no one on the quality of our tradition. Events such as the Battle of Britain, the defence of Malta, the retreat of El Alamein, have inevitably caught the eye of the public and the historian, but they are not expressions of what I regard as the most fundamental and deep-rooted tradition in the Royal Air Force—the tradition that nothing is impossible, that, somehow, any new problem can be solved; and if the old and traditional methods won't do, new methods must be devised. Supply of Berlin was impossible—but....

"This is one of the reasons why I say the Royal Air Force needs young men with a call, men with vision and faith, vision to see how the ever-changing problems of the future (scientific, technical, strategic, tactical) can be met and solved, and faith in Air Force power as the guardian of peace and, in war, the architect of victory."



Dr. Ralph J. Bunche

DANGER doesn't seem to bother 44-year-old Ralph Johnson Bunche.

That's why stepping into the shoes of the slain Count Folke Bernadotte to become acting Mediator for Palestine was a logical move, the diplomatic experts believe. The job obviously takes tremendous physical as well as moral courage. Bunche has both to spare.

The fact that an American Negro has risen to such an important world role is proof of his inner stamina. His disregard for physical peril to get a job done stands out in his record.

During World War II he served with the cloak and dagger boys of the U.S. Office of Strategic Services. His most important work was as an agent doing advance planning for the African invasion. He had become an expert on the Dark Continent during several visits there, gathering material for his doctor's thesis on the subject of mandated areas and doing other research. Those scholarly chores were no child's play. Much of the time he travelled through jungles and wilderness from village to vil-

lage, getting his information first-hand from the natives. He had numerous encounters with wild animals. The thesis which resulted from his first trip won him a Ph. D. degree from Harvard, plus the Toppan prize as the best essay in social sciences that year.

Even since his undergraduate days at the University of California, Bunche has had to wear a rubber brace on a knee which was injured in football. Basketball was his best sport, however. He starred on three championship teams and was graduated with the highest scholastic honours from California in 1927. Not a subsidized athlete, he worked his way through the university as a janitor and carpet-layer.

AT HARVARD

AFTER graduation, several of his friends put up a kitty of \$1,000 to get him to Harvard for work on a master's degree. He made it working part time as an instructor in political science.

For the next four years he taught political science at Howard University in Washington. In that job he won many important friends with a sense of humour as keen as his intellect. Before his marriage to a school teacher, he lived at the home of the mother of a Harvard classmate, William H. Austin, now Governor of the Virgin Islands.

For no explainable reason, his close friends have nicknamed him "Doctor."

He is able to work extremely long hours, maintaining the deepest concentration. During such times he has to be reminded when to eat. When he is on a particular problem he can keep going 18 hours a day for months, without stop and with no apparent damage to his health. He is putting in such hours now on the Palestine problem.

DANGER DOESN'T BOTHER BUNCHE

By DOUGLAS LARSEN

Persons who have worked with him attribute this ability to complete relaxation he can achieve the moment he lays down his work. During spare hours he enjoys a game of billiards.

During the years of his teaching at Howard, studying at Harvard and making trips to Africa, he also spent much time studying race relations in southern American cities. In the course of this study he was forcibly chased out of the several towns. This never bothered him much. He says:

"I learned at a very early age that there is a social difference between whites and Negroes."

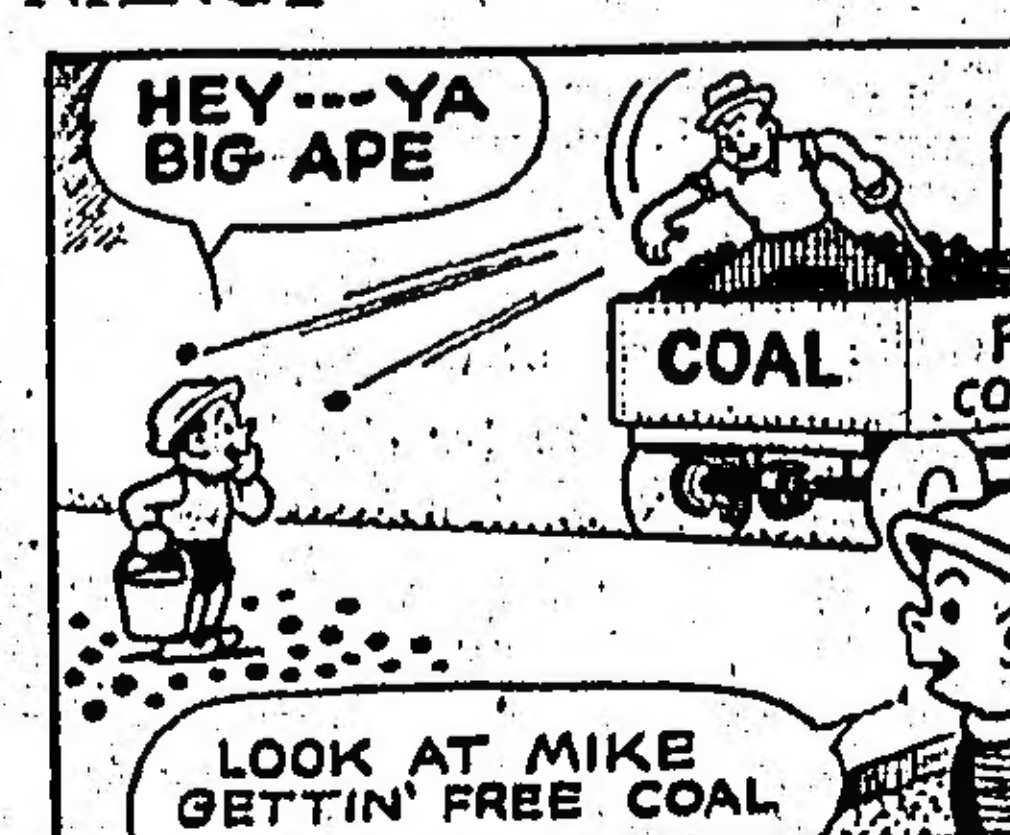
The incident which bothered him most, he related, was the day of his graduation from high schools as the top student of his class. In presenting an award to him a school official said that he had never thought of Bunche as a Negro.

IMPRESSIVE WORK

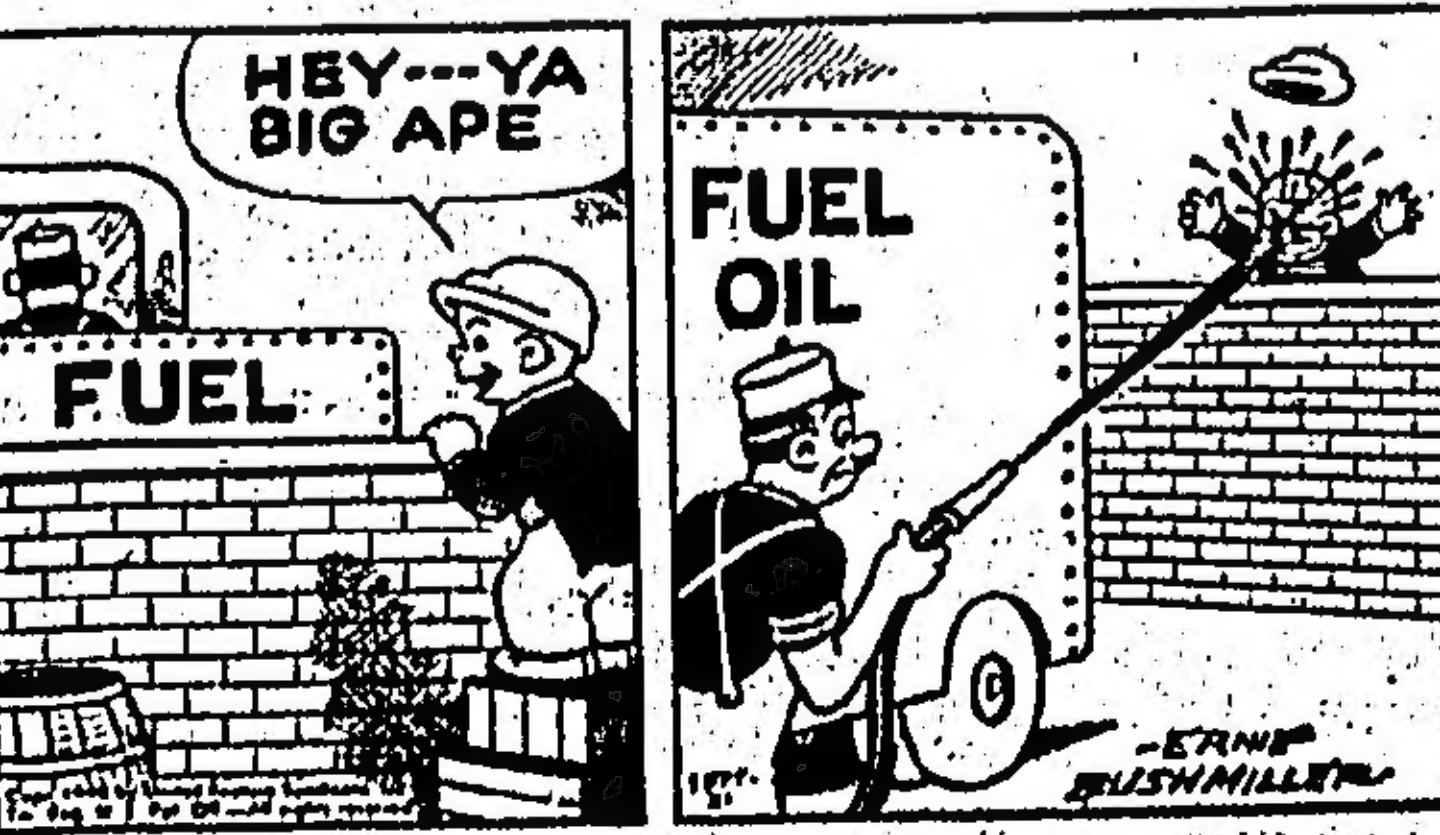
IN 1944, Bunche accepted an appointment with the U.S. Government to become the first Negro official in the State Department. His outstanding work won him a job with the United Nations as an adviser at both the San Francisco and London meetings. His impressive UN work finally led to his being chosen to head the UN Secretariat. He accepted the new job reluctantly. He said he would rather have stayed on as head of the Trusteeship Division.

Bunche was born in Detroit. His grandfather was a slave, his father a barber and his mother a musician. His parents died before he was out of high school, and he went to live with his grandmother in California. He is the father of two teen-age daughters and a small son.

NANCY Sluggo Gets "Fueled"



By Ernie Bushmiller



HEAD FIRST FOR BEAUTY!



Wheelock, Marden Meeting

CHAIRMAN REPORTS ON THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES

The general meeting of shareholders of Messrs Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd., adjourned on December 29, 1947, was resumed at the Company's offices, King's Building, this morning, followed by the Annual General Meeting for 1948.

Commenting on the accounts for the period from April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1947, the Chairman, Mr. G. E. Marden, said that the Balance Sheet was issued in London in respect of the period from August 17, 1943, which was the date of their registration in the United Kingdom to March 31, 1944, and for the following year. They referred, he said, only to assets in areas not enemy occupied, and were completely incorporated in the accounts presented.

The Chairman drew attention to the Share Capital Conversion Account. The Share Capital itself, the General Reserve and Depreciation Reserve, as they stood in their books in 1941, had been converted into Hongkong dollars at the rate ruling in November of that year. The amounts provided in the United Kingdom, whilst an amount of \$2,097,000 had been carried down from the Profit and Loss Appropriation Account. These amounts, added to the sum of \$2,389,000 from the Exchange Reserve, had provided the exact amount required to convert the capital to HK\$20 per share at which the capital had now been stabilised by resolution of Directors. He explained that the Exchange Reserve which was thus used was derived from the balance of this Reserve as it stood after appropriating 1941 profits together with the difference in value which accrued as the result of taking certain assets abroad at their sterling value, and booking sterling value of the CN dollar at the time it was originally purchased.

ANNUAL MEETING
At the Annual General Meeting which followed, the Chairman explained the delay in presenting the accounts, which was due mainly to the requirements of their auditors in respect of operations in the United Kingdom, Shanghai and Hongkong, the necessity of many references between these three places and the effect of the Japanese occupation upon their operations.

Up to the first week in December, 1941, the Company's affairs prospered and a substantial interim dividend was paid. At the time of the invasion of the Settlement at Shanghai, the Company had a local dollar overdraft with their bankers, which had been largely used to finance the erection of new office buildings on their large estate district property, and in view of the risk under occupation considered to be attaching to overdrafts secured by the equivalent of a full charge on the Company's assets, it was decided to repay it by utilising as far as possible the local dollar holdings of other members of their group, paying them at the last official rate of exchange and earmarking for their account a portion of the Company's assets abroad.

Further sums of local currency were also required to pay off large numbers of native employees of the Company's various subsidiaries.

LOYAL CHINESE STAFF
The Chairman paid tribute to the loyalty of the Chinese staff, as a result of which none of the Company's clients had suffered any loss, apart from a very small case of robbery by forcible entry into one of the Company's showrooms, and apart from cases of legal requisitioning by the occupying authorities. The Chairman explained the change of name of the Company. Owing to the existence in the United Kingdom of another concern named "Wheelock & Co., Ltd.", they were forced to adopt their present title when they were registered in the United Kingdom. He added that, as the name had become so well known, both in London and this Colony, it was considered inadvisable to revert to the old one.

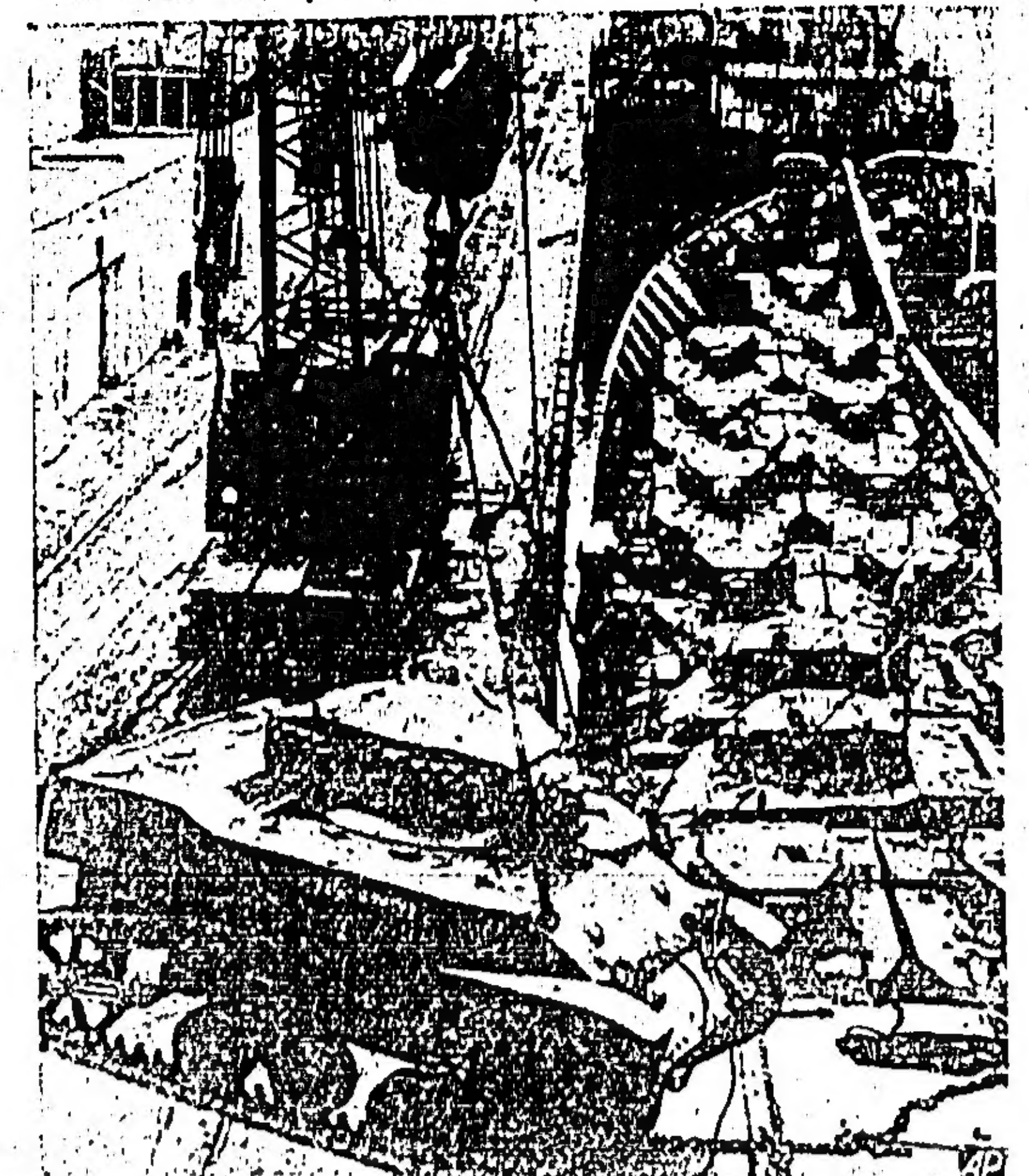
During the war, and whilst they were registered in the U.K., certain shipping transactions took place and they acquired a shipbuilding and repair yard at Southampton, which now formed one of their subsidiaries.

Certain investments were made in the U.K. and a substantial portion of them remained in their portfolios.

ENERGETIC REHABILITATION
The Company were fortunate, the Chairman went on, that the Staff did not suffer unduly from internment, and were able energetically to take on the task of rehabilitating their business in Shanghai. In this they were greatly assisted by the loyal nucleus of their Chinese Staff, who functioned as best they could during the occupation. When the Chairman returned to Shanghai in the Spring of 1946, from his repatriation to England (in August 1942), much of the Company's equipment and property had been recovered. They had not yet been recovered. They had not yet been recovered. They had not yet been recovered.

Regarding the new office building, the Chairman said it was occupied throughout the hostilities by Japanese official organisations, and the Company were consequently able to obtain possession of it after a long and hard fight. It had been period during which it had been leased at a low rental to the United States Authorities. Much of the space was now superfluous, and the

Tanks Bound For China



Thirty-six M-3 tanks are loaded aboard the ss Andrew Jackson at Houston, Tex., before the ship sailed for Shanghai. Houston Customs officials said the tanks, war surplus, originally were to go to Mexico, but when the State Department Export licence came through, it was for China.—AP Picture.

FURTHER DISCLOSURES IN BRIBERY PROBE

London, Nov. 29.—The Tribunal enquiring into alleged irregularities in Government departments was told today that the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, Mr. John Belcher, said to a London company director: "The Labour Government will not last forever" and when it fell someone might "offer me a directorship."

Colonel John Douglas George, Chairman of Aldford House, Limited, said he had met Mr. Belcher at the flat of Sidney Stanley, an alien and the key witness in the enquiry who occupied a flat in Aldford House, an apartment building in London's fashionable Park Lane.

Mr. Belcher had told him: "The Government will not last forever and I am very glad to meet men like you because when we go out of office some of you might be inclined to offer me a directorship of companies in which you are interested. 'If there is anything you want at any time in my department, do not go through the normal channels. Get in touch with me direct and I may be able to help you considerably.'"

Colonel George said in answer to the Chairman of the Tribunal that he did not take the remark seriously. In answer to Sir Hartley Shawcross, the Attorney General, he said he thought it was an imprudent remark which was made with serious intent.

Sir Hartley: "Did you take it as a joke?"
Colonel George: "No. It rather took the wind out of my sails for a moment and there did not seem to be any reply to make."

He said that Stanley had never suggested that Mr. Belcher was very much in his hands although they appeared to be close friends. In reply to Mr. Belcher's counsel, he said he was prepared to accept that if Mr. Belcher used the words they were used in the ordinary way of being humorous to a business acquaintance.

BOX OF CIGARS
Stanley, he said, had never suggested he might be able to influence Government action by payments or other considerations to Government members or officials.

Colonel George said Stanley gave a director of the Bank of England, Mr. George Gibson, a box of cigars in his flat and later told witnesses: "You cannot give a man in Mr. Gibson's position a gift of money or a participation in a financial deal, but it is possible to give a gift such as a box of cigars or a fur coat for a man's wife."

Witness said Stanley was trying to make it clear that he would not prejudice a friend in a high position by making a gift which might cause criticism.

Robert William Liversidge, the man who admitted he had once left the country and thus avoided arrest on a fraud charge, faced more questions about his past earlier in the enquiry today. Answering his own counsel, Liversidge said the incident which was followed by his leaving England happened 21 years ago when he was only 23 years old.

When he left, he did not know that any warrant had been issued for his arrest.

WAR-TIME DETENTION
Sir Hartley said he had nothing to say about the matter, but Liversidge said he had done nothing which he knew or believed to be unlawful. The Attorney General had suggested he had been living on the fringe of the criminal law, but actually he had never been brought before any court on any charge.

Liversidge agreed that he had been detained during the war for just over 18 months. After his release, he had spent a good deal of

18 NATIONS CONFER IN AUSTRALIA

Sydney, Nov. 30.—The United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East met for its fourth session on Monday, facing the gigantic task of finding a way out of Asia's maze of postwar problems.

Opening the conference, Governor-General William J. McKell of Australia told the delegations of 18 nations that the Commission's job can hardly be exceeded in importance as far as human welfare is concerned.

The world is witnessing in Asia national movements as intense as those which swept Europe in the last century, Mr. McKell said, but the movement in Asia affects a larger area and many more people. He added that it seems likely the Asia the world knew, only 10 years ago, has been left behind and there can be no question of a return to prewar conditions.

IMPORTANT ROLE

"Establishment of this Commission is itself a recognition of the new and much more important part which Asia and the Far East is playing in the economic and political affairs of the world," Mr. McKell said.

The Governor-General told the Commission that Australia regards the industrial development of Asia and the Far East as the most important long-term problem. This, he said, would be one answer to over-population, because it would open up productive fields of employment.

Australia, he said, realises the great economic possibilities of the vast area and looks forward to economic development and raising living standards in the countries concerned.

ORGANISING STUDIES

Full members of the Commission are Australia, Burma, China, France, India, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Pakistan, Siam, Russia, Britain and the United States. Other delegates are here from Laos, Cambodia, Ceylon, Hongkong and British Borneo, Malaya and Singapore.

The Commission's executive secretary, Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, said the work of the group so far has been mainly in the direction of organising studies with a view to collecting and assembling data, but that now more concrete results should be produced.

Australia's Minister of Postwar Reconstruction, Mr. John J. Bodman, representing the Prime Minister Chifley, said the co-ordinated development of Asia, particularly in the industrial field, would safeguard against any recurrence of Japanese aggression.—Associated Press.

Bible Council Secretary Dies In Sleep

Dr. John R. Temple, DD, who was passing through the Colony on a tour of the Far East on behalf of the Council of World Bible Societies of which he was head, died in his sleep in the Queen Mary Hospital in the early hours of this morning. He was about 62 years of age. He became ill about a week ago and went into hospital for observation.

Known as a very great administrator, the late Dr. Temple formerly served in the South China district. Twenty years ago he became General Secretary in London of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and held that office up to about a year ago.

The late Dr. Temple was then succeeded by the Bible Society of the Council of World Bible Societies, which embraced something like 18 bible societies.

He is survived by his wife, who is in London, and two sons, one of whom is a doctor with the Methodist mission in Rhodesia and the other is in Cambridge University reading theology in preparation for the Methodist ministry.

The funeral service will take place in the Chapel of the Colonial Cemetery at 4.45 p.m. tomorrow. Arrangements for the service are in the hands of the Rev. J. E. Sandbach, Minister of the English Methodist Church, Wanchai.

BUS ROUTE RESTORED

The China Motor Bus Company are restoring the prewar 7A route from Aberdeen to Stanley Village tomorrow. The service will be hourly, leaving Aberdeen from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. and from Stanley Village from 8.30 a.m. until 6.30 p.m. The full fare for the route will be 50 cents but it will be 30 cents from Aberdeen to Repulse Bay and from Stanley Village to Repulse Bay.

Prison For Leper

Certified to be a leper, Cheung Lap was sent to prison for six months by Mr. d'Almada at Central this morning when Inspector Moran stated that Cheung would be accepted at Stanley Prison, but not in a remand prison.

Cheung was convicted of keeping an opium den on a roof of 44 Des Voeux Road West on November 22. Four smokers arrested were previously dealt with and six pipes, three lamps and a small quantity of opium seized were confiscated.

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FIRE DISTURBS OPIUM SMOKERS

Yesterday's fire undoubtedly disturbed the business of an opium den on the old site of Queen's College. On patrol in the fire devastated area yesterday, Sub-Inspector Thompson noticed a smell of opium coming from one of the few remaining buildings. He kicked open a door and found that some people had escaped through the back door. They had left behind three pipes, five opium pipe heads and three mace of opium which Inspector Thompson seized.

The seizure was the subject of an application for confiscation granted by Mr. d'Almada at Central this morning when the circumstances of its finding were disclosed.

FOG BLANKETS EUROPE

(Continued from Page 1)

British European Airways had to cancel 17 planes' flights. Hurn Airport, Hampshire, became fog-bound soon after noon. Four incoming planes were re-directed—three back to French airports and one to Prestwick, Scotland.

Fog thickened over the Scheldt Estuary during the day, and paralysed vessels at Antwerp. The only Dutch transport running normally was the Hook of Holland to Harwich steamship line, which was operated by radar.

The fog caused roads in Holland to become almost unusable to traffic, after three days of hard frost. Country-wide dislocation of traffic was reported.—Reuter.

The Berlin Dispute

(Continued from Page 1)

perle drawn from the six "neutral" members of the Security Council. The committee would be charged with co-operating with British, United States, Soviet and French experts to work out a system of currency reform for Berlin.

2. The "parallel" committee will be expected to finish its technical work by the end of the year.

3. The "parallel" plans—lifting the blockade by stages and introducing currency reforms—to be presented to the Security Council early in January.—Reuter.

Opium Concealed In Books

Seventy-two tins of raw opium concealed in books were confiscated by Mr. d'Almada at Central this morning when the carrier, a student Li Chung-wo, 21, was sentenced to six months.

RO Redman said Li disembarked from the Halyang at Douglas Wharf yesterday. The opium was in two tins cleverly placed in two books which had been cut out and then concealed among a number of other books.

N. Atlantic Alliance Talks Behind Schedule

Washington, Nov. 29.—The negotiations for a North Atlantic military alliance between the United States, Canada and the Western European Powers are several weeks behind schedule, officials here admitted tonight.

The Western European powers had spent additional time in agreeing on their detailed proposals, they explained. However, it was expected that negotiations with the United States and Canada—due to begin at the end of this week—would be correspondingly speeded up.

It is clear that the United States will insist upon two reservations:

1. That the United States itself must determine whether an act of aggression has taken place, such as would require the United States to come to the assistance of the country attacked.
2. Nothing in the Pact must conflict with that part of the United States constitution giving the United States Congress alone the power to declare war.

U.S. OBLIGATIONS

Officials in Washington pointed out, however, that the United States under the proposed terms of the pact could immediately give "all aid short of war" to a country attacked.

They said also that it was impossible to imagine any situation envisaged in the pact as requiring the use of armed force in which Congress would not instantly support a declaration of war.

The United States favours associating with the pact, either directly or indirectly, certain countries which control areas of strategic importance to the Atlantic and Arctic defence system of the United States and Canada.

Those most frequently mentioned are:

1. Denmark, controlling Greenland which is of vital importance both as a site for weather stations and as a factor in defending Canada from trans-polar attack.

PORTUGAL'S POSITION

2. Iceland to which the United States sent troops for defence reasons long before America entered World War II.

3. Portugal controlling the Azores—vital to the defence of the Atlantic approaches to the United States waters.

4. Norway, of strategic importance to the defence of Britain.

France opposes extending the pact beyond the seven negotiating powers on the grounds:

1. Firstly, that diplomatic guarantees against aggression should not be given unless the signatory nations are capable of giving them immediate and practical protection.
2. Secondly, that the United States military assistance to the signatories should not be dissipated over too large an area.—Reuter.

Bill Denies Right To Strike

Tokyo, Nov. 30.—After an all-night session, the House of Representatives at 8 a.m. today passed a bill, suggested by General MacArthur, for revision of the national public service law, which would deny Government workers the right to strike and to collective bargaining.

The Social Democrats, Communists and Labour Party representatives opposed the bill but lacked sufficient number to prevent its passage.

The House Speaker did not ask for a roll call and the bill was passed on a standing vote immediately to the House of Councillors, where passage was expected in the course of the day—the final day of the special session which was called by the Asahida Cabinet especially for legislating the bill suggested by MacArthur.

General MacArthur on July 22 sent a letter to Hiroshi Asahida, then Prime Minister, at a time when Government railway workers and communications workers threatened a nationwide strike.—United Press.

New Colours For Royal Scots

Edinburgh, Nov. 29.—Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Scots, today presented new Colours to the colour party of the Second Battalion—at present in Trieste—at Draghorn Camp, Edinburgh, while the First Battalion provided the ceremonial.

Princess Royal said it was on a sad note that she presented the colours as in a short time the Second Battalion would be returning home for amalgamation with the First Battalion. The Second Battalion had been in existence for over 200 years and she said it was hard that they should lose their separate identity.—Reuter.

Saxony Elections

Hamburg, Nov. 28.—Communists and Socialists suffered losses in local elections in Lower Saxony yesterday although the Social Democrats remained the strongest party. The final results, subject to checking, gave them 30.0 per cent of the poll, the Christian Democrats 24.3 per cent, the Free Democrats 19.1 per cent, the Free Democrats 9.4 per cent and the Communists three per cent.

The Social Democrats, while maintaining their control of Hannover, lost their former stronghold of Brunswick.—Reuter.

First Pictures Of Royal Birth Scenes



Fears For Third Power Property In N. China

Tientsin, Nov. 29.—British, American and other foreigners in Tientsin and Peiping were tonight asking their respective consulates if the Nationalists in North China intend to respect their property or violate their comparative neutrality in the Chinese civil war by destroying foreign possessions and property wholesale.

These fears were aroused by reports, now confirmed, of the destruction of the Sino-British Kailan Mining Administration's installations in Chinwangtao and the threat posed to similar installations in Tientsin, the strategic centre astride the path of the Communist advance. The demolition of these installations on a plea of "scorched earth policy" would represent destruction of fabulous foreign investments.

POINTLESS TO STAY

British residents here said tonight the decision to remain in North China—reached by most Britons and Americans—would be pointless in the face of such an apparent lack of protection accorded to foreign property which had been assiduously built up through the decades through participation in China's industrialisation.

Foreigners here are also wondering if what happened to Chinwangtao could be taken as an indication of Nanking's overall policy on the matter of foreign investments.

Relatively neutral foreigners to whom such questions now loom large were tonight planning to bring this consideration to higher levels. They feel that they are at present directly affected by the progress of the civil war—an attitude hitherto not assumed.

The tendency here is that, though foreigners have been sympathetic to the Nationalist cause, they have not been participants in the Chinese civil war.

The destruction of the installations at Chinwangtao and the threat to pursue similar tactics elsewhere brings to the foreground the merits of foreign neutrality.

The evacuation of North China may take on an entirely different complexion if this neutrality—involving a respect for neutral property—cannot be respected.

Reliable sources reported this morning that the biggest bridge along the east Peiping-Mukden railway, across the Lun River, had also been destroyed. The relative shallowness of this river does not give the bridge much importance to the prevention of the Communist onrush.

SCORCHED EARTH

This has added to the fear that General Fu Tso-yi's "scorched earth policy" for all North China will mean that its cities and mines are to suffer the same fate as Chinwangtao.

Tientsin's dependence upon the Kailan Mining Administration cannot be over-emphasised. Most of this city's water comes from artesian wells pumped by coal-driven machinery.

To destroy the Tongshan mines would automatically seal Tientsin's fate.

The Mayor of Tongshan, Mr Yu Kuo-chen, interviewed General Fu Tso-yi this afternoon in connection with the mining area's precarious situation.

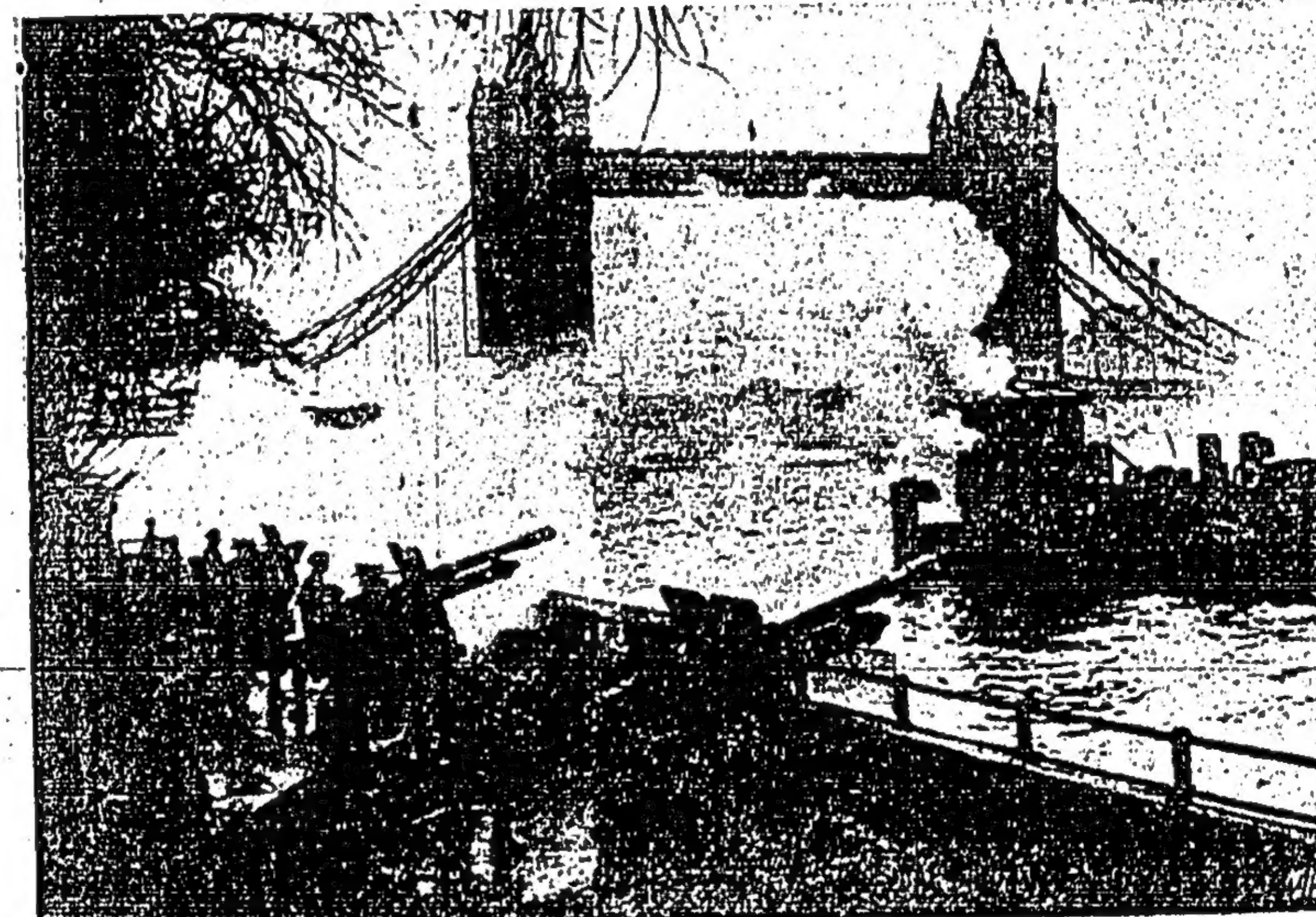
He told reporters afterwards that all was quiet on the outskirts of Tongshan.

Simultaneously, Chinese press reports said the main body of Lin Biao's Communist forces were located in hilly regions immediately inside the Great Wall, which explains the quiet on the city's outskirts.—Reuter.

White House Parley

Washington, Nov. 29.—President Truman called a conference at the White House today for what was believed to be a full-scale review of the European Recovery Programme.

The Secretary of State, Mr George Marshall, Administrator Paul Hoffman and Averell Harriman, Ambassador at Large, attended the conference.—Reuter.



The top three pictures were taken by Associated Press photographers during the exciting hours in London of the birth of Princess Elizabeth's baby. Top: a Buckingham Palace sentry (centre with rifle), found his regular beat crowded as he pushed his way through throngs which gathered outside the Palace gates. Below: Another view of the huge crowds outside Buckingham Palace, and the guns of the Honourable Artillery Company, with Tower Bridge in the background, firing a 41-gun salute to herald the birth of the new Prince. Above: Princess Elizabeth and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh, caught by the camera when they made their last public appearance together shortly before the royal birth.

No Defence Against Atomic Bomb

Boston, Nov. 29.—Dr David Bradley, young San Francisco physician who went to the Bikini atom bomb tests, has decided there is "no place to hide." That is the title of his book.

Dr Bradley, now 35, who witnessed the experiment from the air as a U.S. Army doctor, then examined the results, has come to the conclusion that "there is no defence against atomic weapons."

"There are no satisfactory counter-measures and methods of decontamination," he continues.

"There are no satisfactory medical or sanitary safeguards for the people of an atomised area," he contends, adding that the devastating influence of an atom bomb "may affect the land and its wealth for centuries through the persistence of adverse changes in the mechanisms of heredity."

Dr Bradley describes at length successful efforts to decontaminate target ships used at Bikini.

"They have been able," he says, "by means of strong acid to remove most radioactivity from samples of paint, steel and other materials. It works in a test tube, but a test tube is not where most of us live. The problem of decontaminating the total surface of a battleship or the brick and cement of a future Hiroshima remains practically insoluble."

Dr Bradley says it appears sandblasting will remove radioactivity if paint is entirely removed, then observes: "You can't sandblast a whole ship under battle conditions. You can't sandblast Pearl Harbour, or Bremerton shipyards, or Chicago."

—Associated Press.

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